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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/480,689	01/11/2000	Min-Young Heo	06192.0102	4622

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EXAMINER

RAO, SHRINIVAS H

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2814

DATE MAILED: 04/19/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application N .

09/480,689

Applicant(s)

HEO ET AL.

Examiner

Steven H. Rao

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— The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address —

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 February 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 7-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 7-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Response to Amendment

Applicants' amendment filed February 05, 2002 has been entered on February 14, 2002.

Therefore claims 7-9 as amended by the amendment are currently pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claims 7-8 are rejected over Bonora et al. (U.S Patent No. 5,570,990 herein after Bonara) previously applied .

With respect to claims 7 and 8, Bonora substantially discloses all the method steps set forth including setting the process apparatus in an automatic transfer mode when the communication start signal is detected , and setting the process apparatus in a manual transfer mode when the communication start signal is not detected.

Bonara in col. 5 lines 19-27 state, "

In a similar manner, a manipulator assembly shown generally by numeral 44 includes a platform 46 which has an engagement means 48 for engaging vertical guide 42. Manipulator assembly 44 includes a manipulator arm 50 and engagement head 52 adapted to engage cassette 14. By vertical operation of platforms 36 and 46, and by operation of manipulator assembly 44, cassette 14 is moved from its position on box door 32 to a position on equipment station 13 (as shown by the broken lines).

at col. 7 lines 11-14 states,

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defined by shaft 114. Thus, a clean room operator can push hand 112 causing arm 122 to rotate about shaft 126, arm 118 to rotate about joint 124, or hand 112 to rotate about shaft 114, or a combination thereof.

at col. 8 lines 34-45 states:

FIG. 10 shows the mobile loader stocker 110 engaging container 18-1, which is mated to port 24 of processing station 12. FIGS. 8 and 10 show container 18-1 with an intelligent data card 232-1 mounted on its side. Port 24 of processing station 12 includes means 236 for communicating with data card 232-1. A more detailed description of data card 232-1 and the communications means 236 are found in U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,097,421; 4,974,166; and 5,166,884; which are incorporated by reference. The means 236 for communicating with data card 232-1 is connected to a data processor (not shown) in the processing station 12. The data processor on the processing station may include a keyboard for the operator to enter instructions. The communicating means 236 includes a photosensitive transistor (not shown) or other photodetector which responds to data transmitted by light emitting diodes (not shown) or other communication means.

Therefore the data processor with the keyboard for operator to input instructions or the photo detector to detect responding to data transmitted by leds or other communication means is used to communicate start signal which can be detected by the photodetector and the apparatus set to operate (automatic mode) or manual mode when signal not detected. Bonara and Hwang for reasons previously set out and those stated below.

Claim 9 was said to be allowable because it depends from allegedly allowable claims 7-8, However as shown above claims 7-8 are not allowable therefore claim 9 is also not allowable.

Applicants' arguments against Bonora presented in the amendment filed Feb. 05, 2002 have been fully considered but are not deemed to be persuasive since Bonora

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describes several transfer devices including the mobile loader stocker, arms, mobile shaft, and not only the push cart as alleged by the applicants'.

As the same references as previously applied are used herein also this forms a separate ground of making this action FINAL.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven H. Rao whose telephone number is 703-306-5945. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8.00 to 5.00.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703- 308-0956.

SL
4/17/02

Jerome Jackson, Jr.
Primer Examiner